

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD—FEBRUARY 21, 2018—TOWN HALL SPECIAL MEETING ON TOWN FINANCES

Present: Supervisor Edward Lentz, Councilman John Pegg, Councilwoman Nancy-Martin Mathewson, Councilwoman Flo Loomis, Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker, Clerk Charlene Wells, Residents: Ed George, Tom Riso, Barry & Sandra Braunius Absent: Councilman Robert Eklund

Supervisor Edward Lentz opened the special meeting at 7:31 PM. The goals of the meeting were to discuss our fund balances and how to spend the CHIPS & PAVENY funds for 2018. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker noted that when we encountered the flooding in 2006 we went from maintenance to recovery mode. We were able to pay for all of the work that needed to be done while we waited for FEMA reimbursement. Reasons for having a fund balance are for emergency situations such as a FEMA declared disaster or for a major equipment breakdown and to reduce taxes. Supervisor Edward Lentz noted that there was no set amount that was acceptable, but that the Board should know what it is intended for. We currently have \$466,252.00 in unappropriated funds. The unappropriated general fund is at about 80% and the highway fund is at about 28% of the 2018 budget. After further discussion, Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson suggested that maybe we should move slowly to take time to adjust to having less of a cushion. All were in favor of starting out with trying to keep no more than a 50% fund balance with the goal of reducing that to 25%.

Discussion was held on equipment. If we purchased two new Freightliners it would cost us about \$60,000.00 annually for 5 years. We currently have two tractors for mowing and Supt. Whitaker wants to get a tractor for pulling the broom and honing with the rake. Hwy. Employee Barry Braunius added that you can't use the pickup for pulling this equipment because you need hydraulics and you have to be able to see what you're doing. The rake won't work on the mower tractor. The little backhoe could pull the rake but does not have enough power for the broom. Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker added that if he got a loader attachment for a small tractor it could be used for cleaning intersections. The big loader is not good in snow. He had thought he wanted turf tires for a new tractor, but found out they are only 4 ply, so they wouldn't hold up for long. He would like one that doesn't have a particulate filter. He supplied the Board with options & prices of various tractors. Since they only broom & hone approximately 3 months of the year, Supt. Whitaker felt it would last us for at least ten years which is a requirement for using CHIPS funds. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to authorize the Hwy. Supt to draft specs for a new 4 by 4 Tractor, which will be reviewed by Supervisor Lentz & Councilman Pegg, and put out for bids to be returned by the March 13th, 2018 meeting.

Hwy. Supt. Bill Whitaker got the cost of culverts that he wants to do under the CHIPS program this year including Card Road (\$9138.60), Gilbert Lake Road (\$2059.80), Gardnertown Road (\$1449.40), Blue Jay Hollow Road (\$4635.84), Backus Road (\$5392.20) and South Welcome Road (\$5392.20). Added to the cost of the culverts (\$28,068.04) would be materials and maybe a contractor, so it was estimated the total project cost would be about \$40,000.00. Gilbert Lake Road would cost about \$120,000.00 for resurfacing. The cost of the 4 x 4 Tractor was estimated at about \$36,000.00. Pegg Road and Gregory Road were next on the CHIPS list, with Gregory Road supposedly having \$20,000.00 in multi-modal funds which were not used previously. Other ideas were to purchase another new Freightliner truck/plow or outfit the other 2009 Freightliner. After further discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Edward Lentz, seconded by Councilwoman Flo Loomis and carried 4 Ayes/0 Nays to use the 2018 CHIPS/PAVENY funds to purchase a 4x4 tractor, resurface Gilbert Lake Road, do the culvert projects on the six roads and if the multi-modal funds are still available for Gregory Road to do that project.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy-Martin Mathewson, seconded by Councilman John Pegg and carried 4 Ayes/ 0 Nays to adjourn at 9:00 PM.

Charlene R. Wells, New Lisbon Town Clerk